

The Montrose Press, Volume 26, Number 10, March 6, 1908  — MISS ELSIE VANDEGRIFT IS HONORED AT BOULDER [ARTICLE]

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**MISS ELSIE VANDEGRIFT IS
HONORED AT BOULDER**

A Denver daily of Sunday contained the following dispatch from Boulder in regard to a well known and popular Montrose girl:

Elsie Lincoln Vandegrift, the Montrose girl, selected as one of the five orators to compete in the final oratorical contest at the University of Colorado, is 22 years old, a freshman in the college, and the only woman orator ever entered in an oratorical contest in Colorado.

The title of Miss Vandegrift's oration is "His Country's Redeemer." On Dec. 6, 1906, it won first place for her in the Beckwith oratorical contest at the University of Denver. The oration is a eulogy of William Jennings Bryan and so highly was it considered by critics that the News-Times paid her \$100 for the privilege of printing it in pamphlet form.

Miss Vandegrift is an experienced orator, having won the Western slope championship in oratory in 1904; the Colorado state championship in declamation in 1905, besides having won twelve other prizes in oratory and debate. Aside from her ability as an orator, Miss Vandegrift is at the head of her classes in the college of liberal arts. She believes in the doctrine she preaches in her oration, and is absolutely independent, putting herself through college by her own efforts. She intends to complete the college course and then enter a law school.